

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A method for transmitting voice data ~~over various types of networks~~, the method comprising the steps of:

setting up a connection by using a signaling protocol for circuit-switched transmission of user data from a circuit-switched network to a packet transmission network;

transmitting the user data via a transmission link of ~~a~~ the circuit-switched network to the packet transmission network;

distributing the user data to data packets;

forwarding the user data via a packet transmission network if the user data are typical of voice transmission;

forwarding no user data via the packet transmission network if the user data are typical of silence intervals, wherein user data that is redundant between the circuit-switched network and the packet transmission network is not transmitted;

determining, via at least one signaling unit included in the connection set up, the type of connection; and

checking for silence intervals only if a voice transmission link has been set up between the circuit-switched network and the packet transmission network.

Claim 2. (original) A method for transmitting voice data over various types of networks as claimed in claim 1, the method further comprising the steps of:

indicating, in the data packets and via a value of at least one bit position, that further data packets are following; and

transmitting at least one data packet which contains a different value at the bit position if a silence interval is detected.

Claim 3. (currently amended) A method for ~~transmitting-receiving~~ voice data ~~over various types of networks~~, the method comprising the steps of:

~~transmitting-receiving~~ user data from a circuit-switched network in data packets in a packet transmission network;

depacketizing the user data;

forwarding the user data via a transmission link of a ~~the~~ circuit-switched data transmission network;

indicating, in the data packets and via a value of at least one bit position, that further data packets are following; and

indicating, via a different value of the bit position, that a silence interval is detected in ~~which no user data are transmitted~~, wherein user data that is redundant between the circuit-switched network and the packet transmission network is not transmitted.

Claim 4. (original) A method for transmitting voice data over various types of networks as claimed in claim 3, wherein, when a silence interval is present, an event occurs which is one of transmitting user data which are typical of silence intervals via the transmission link, and signaling the presence of a silence interval to the circuit-switched data transmission network in a different way.

Claim 5. (original) A method for transmitting voice data over various types of networks as claimed in claim 3, wherein a connection is set up by using a signaling protocol for the circuit-switched transmission of the user data, at least one signaling unit included in the connection setup determines the type of connection, and the check for silence intervals is only performed when a voice transmission link has been set up.

Claim 6. (original) A method for transmitting voice data over various types of networks as claimed in claim 1, wherein the type of connection is determined in at least two signaling units involved in the connection set up independently of one another, and no signaling with respect to the type of connection is carried out between the signaling unit.

Claim 7. (original) A method for transmitting voice data over various types of networks as claimed in claim 1, wherein the signaling protocol is one of the ISUP protocol or the Q.931 protocol, and a parameter in which the type of connection is specific is read in the signaling unit for determining the type of connection.

Claim 8. (original) A method for transmitting voice data over various types of networks as claimed in claim 2, wherein the bit position is a marker bit according to an RTP transmission protocol.

Claim 9. (original) A method for transmitting voice data over various types of networks as claimed in claim 1, wherein the check for silence intervals is carried out as a function of a message of the signaling unit to at least one interworking unit which is connected between the transmission link and the packet transmission network.

Claim 10. (original) A method for transmitting voice data over various types of networks as claimed in claim 1, wherein a silence interval is detected when no user data typical of voice transmission are transmitted for at least 20 milliseconds.

Claim 11. (original) A method for transmitting voice data over various types of networks as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data packets are transmitted according to the internet protocol.

Claim 12. (original) A method for transmitting voice data over various types of networks as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transmission link is formed by a time slot.

Claim 13. (original) A method for transmitting voice data over various types of networks as claimed in claim 1, wherein the user data are coded in accordance with a G.711 standard.

Claim 14. (canceled)

Claim 15. (canceled)

Claim 16. (currently amended) An interworking unit ~~for transmitting voice data via various types of networks~~, comprising:

a conversion unit which ~~distributes~~ processes user data, transmitted via a transmission link of a circuit-switched data transmission network, to data packets and forwards the data packets via a packet transmission network ~~when the user data are typical of~~ during normal voice transmission; and

a control unit which does not forward any user data via the packet transmission network when the user data ~~are typical of~~ is affiliated with silence intervals.

Claim 17. (currently amended) An interworking unit for transmitting voice data ~~via various types of networks~~, comprising:

a conversion unit which depacketizes data packets with user data, transmitted via a packet transmission network, and forwards the user data via a transmission link of a circuit-switched data transmission network; and

a control unit which determines as a function of the value of a bit position in the data packets that a silence interval is detected in which no data packets are transmitted.

Claim 18. (currently amended) A program with an instruction sequence, upon execution of the instruction sequence by a processor a method is carried out which includes the steps of:

setting up a connection by using a signaling protocol for circuit-switched transmission of user data from a circuit-switched network to a packet transmission network;

transmitting the user data via a transmission link of ~~a~~ the circuit-switched network to the packet transmission network;

distributing the user data to data packets;

forwarding the user data via a packet transmission network if the user data are typical of voice transmission;

forwarding no user data via the packet transmission network if the user data are typical of silence intervals, wherein user data that is redundant between the circuit-switched network and the packet transmission network is not transmitted;

determining, via at least one signaling unit included in the connection set up, the type of connection; and

checking for silence intervals only if a voice transmission link has been set up between the circuit-switched network and the packet transmission network.

Claim 19. (new) An exchange unit, comprising:

an access unit which signals in accordance with a protocol for circuit-switched data networks communicating to packet transmission networks;

a control unit, coupled to the access unit, wherein said control unit determines types of user data that are transmitted between the circuit-switched data networks and the packet transmission networks and transmits the user data determined to be a normal operating mode; and

an interworking unit, coupled to said control unit, wherein said interworking unit blocks transmission of user data from the circuit-switched data networks to the packet transmission networks when the user data is determined to be a silence interval.